

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9259

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2898

STATE FOR CU/CP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC RO

SUBJ: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS - ALVIN AILEY

REF: BUCHAREST 2825

1. ALVIN AILEY COMPANY CLOSED FOUR-PERFORMANCE BUCHAREST SERIES JULY 3 WITH ROUSING FINALE BEFORE 3,200 CHEERING AILEY FREAKS IN SALA PALATULUI. ROMANIAN AUDIENCES REDEEMED THEMSELVES IN COMPANY EYES AS HUNDREDS CROWDED TO FOOT OF STAGE FOR TEN CURTAIN CALLS AND ENCORE AND TO ENGAGE COMPANY IN FLOWER TOSSING. COMPANY UNQUESTIONABLY HUGE POPULAR SUCCESS HERE.

2. FINAL PERFORMANCE MARRED, HOWEVER, BY DIFFICULTIES POSED BY INTRANSIGENCE OF SALA TECHNICAL STAFF AND NON-PROFESSIONALISM OF SALA ENVIRONMENT IN SHARP CONTRAST TO EXCELLENCE OF OPERA. ALTHOUGH SALA REMAINS EXCELLENT LOCATION FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF ENTERTAINMENT (THOSE, FOR EXAMPLE, WHICH REQUIRE MERELY THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF A VERY SLOW CURTAIN), POST INTENDS TO WEIGH CAREFULLY ANY FUTURE USE THIS FACILITY FOR U.S. GROUPS, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT OUR CHOICE IN SUCH MATTERS IS GENERALLY VERY LIMITED.
BARNES

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